

April 2008

Software Release representatives meet at Ames workshop

BY JULIE RIVERA

Ames co-hosted along with NASA Langley Research Center the Software Release Authority (SRA) workshop held at the NASA Ames Conference Center. This workshop brought together representatives agency-wide as well as others who support software release. The workshop's goal was to share lessons learned and best practices in the current responsibilities of the SRA. This collaboration provided the opportunity to share valuable feedback to each of the SRAs.

Software release begins with an inventor requesting authorization to release software and ends with the center SRA's approval or rejection of the request for the software release. Since NASA technology is a valuable asset to the agency overall, it is the responsibility of the SRA to assess the software and determine its proper release.

The center's SRA manages and directs the software release process. In making the final decision on software release requests, the SRA ensures that the proper steps are taken to maximize



Software Release Authority Workshop participants, left to right, front row: Stuart Pendleton, LaRC; Martha Del Alto, Ames; Kathy Kerrigan, GRC; Kaprice Harris, GRC; Robin Orans, Ames; Jane Fox, JSC; Sandra Gerlach, GRC; and Evelyn Hill, MSFC. Left to right, back row: Jason Hanna, GRC; Kathy Acuna, JSC; Mary Dickerson, JSC; Kim Chrestenson, Ames; John Lansaw, SSC; and Laura A. Schoppe, Fuentek/NASA Headquarters.

the benefit both to NASA and to the taxpayer. Especially, since NASA's investment in Software Technology Transfer is meant to achieve greater, "balanced" returns on investment (ROI).

Their vision aims to improve the effectiveness of existing collaborations and leveraging in the government re-

lease process in general. Overall, this workshop was highly successful from an exchange and participatory point of view.

For more information on Software Release, visit <http://software.arc.nasa.gov/release>.